

# NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

## OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



**Interpretation Number:** 00-06

**Date:** 31 October 2003

**Pamphlet Number:** NFPA 72, 2002 ed., NFPA 101, 2000 ed.

**Section(s):** 5.5.2.4.1, 4.6.12.2

**Comments:**

All commercial fire alarm systems must follow plan review, inspection and approval procedures.

**Question:** Are fire alarm systems/components that are not required by code or the authority having jurisdiction required to be installed and/or maintained in accordance with NFPA standards?

**Response:** Yes.

All fire alarm systems and components must be properly installed and maintained. The presence of the fire alarm equipment, whether it is a pull station, smoke alarm or other device may give occupants a false sense of security if they see that fire protection is present and the equipment does not provide proper coverage, or is not in working order.

Where fire alarm equipment is placed to provide protection or notification, proper spacing and placement of the devices must be provided.

Proper installation and maintenance of nonrequired systems must be provided. Installation, inspection and maintenance in accordance with NFPA 72 is necessary for all fire alarm equipment. Household fire alarm equipment must meet the requirements of Chapter 11 of NFPA 72. Commercial equipment must meet chapter 10 of NFPA 72. The inspection of commercial fire alarm equipment must be conducted by a licensed fire alarm inspector.

When an owner does not wish to properly install, inspect or maintain nonrequired fire alarm systems/components, the system/components must be removed completely.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** Dennis C. Hohbein, State of Nebraska Fire Marshal